to my expectations, found it to be a place abounding in interest and importance. Many residents of the territory are not aware of the existence of such a place; and although I am perhaps as well acquainted with the various towns and cities of the territory as any other person, having visited nearly every one, I had no conception until I came here of the location or magnitude of Midway. It is one of the most pleasantly situated towns I ever visited.

"Just now I see a man leading a pack horse loaded with boxes towards the mountains and am told that he is freighting butter and eggs for the citizens to the mines of Little Cottonwood, Big Cottonwood, and American Fork, distant from this place only nine miles over the mountains west.

"The small "Co-op" store here does a big business and the inhabitants of H. S. Alexander's ward are alive and very active. When the narrow gauge railroad now started between Echo and Coalville shall have extended on through this valley, the curiosities of this locality will be sought out by scientific men and curiosity seekers."

In 1873 the first tithing office was commenced. It was completed in 1874. Here Sunday School and other public meetings were held. Many wonderful entertainments were held here such as the Aaronic Priesthood Quorum which had an annual affair. They would meet in the tithing office and dance until about 11 P.M. Then they would go across the street to the school, which was on the southeast corner of the public square. There tables were set with the good things of this world.

Many Swiss people had arrived in the valley at this time. They organized a brass band under the direction of Andrew A. Burgener and built a music hall on the north of the public square where Dean Zenger's home now stands. They held their own L.D.S. meetings in this building conducted in the Swiss and German language by Gottlieb Kohler.

Among these later arrivals were Empey, Bunnel, Probst, Hasler, Murri, Haueter, Buhler, Barben, Remund, Kohler, Huffaker, Kummer, Schaer, Besendorfer, Gertsch, Sonderegger, Kennah, and others.

In 1877 Provo Valley became Wasatch Stake and Bishop Alexander was chosen as counselor to the Stake President, Abram Hatch, and at a special conference held July 15 of that year the Midway Ward was officially organized with David F. Van Wagoner as Bishop, John Watkins, 1st Counselor, and Alva J. Alexander, 2nd Counselor.

March 23, 1878 John Huber was appointed clerk of the Midway Ward. The Church membership now numbered 625. They had outgrown the tithing office and school and a new meeting house was necessary. April 4, 1881 at 10:00 o'clock A.M. the cornerstones of Midway assembly rooms were laid with great ceremonies.

The southeast corner was dedicated by Bishop David Van Wagoner. The southwest corner by First Counselor John Watkins, the northeast corner by Second Counselor Alvah J. Alexander, the southwest corner

A gathering at the old German Hall in Midway. Pictured are, first row, left to right, Fred Kuhni, Ernest Kuhni, Sterling Morton, William Boss, John Durtschi, Joseph Burgener, Alfred Durtschi, William Durtschi, Huldrich Durtschi, Johnnie Durtschi. Second row, Rose Kuhni, Otto Kuhni, Ida Kohler, Clara Buehler, Alma Durtschi, Alice Durtschi, Emma Durtschi. Third row, Maudie Utiger, Elizabeth Mooseman, Louise Kuhni, Barbara Bauer, Catherine L. Durtschi, Conrad Gertsch Sr., Ulrich Buehler, Johannes Krebs, John Bauer, Mrs. John Kummer. Fourth row, Ulrich Probst, Susan Probst, Emma Hasler, Mary Huber Probst, Mary B. Schoney, Elize Durtschi, Carolina Durtschi, Elize Durtschi Gertsch, Maryanne Zenger, Annie Abegglen, Margaret Stucki. Fifth row, John Burgener Jr., Fred Hasler, Eliza Buehler, Anna K. Probst, Elizabeth Kohler, Emma K. Probst, Mrs. Michael Abplanalp, Mrs. Albert Lockner, Mrs. Fred Haueter and baby, Eliza Ernsberger, Anna Seifert, Maggie Boss. Sixth row, Jacob Baumgartner, Henry Zenger, John Besendorfer, Gottlieb Kohler, Ulrich Kuhni, John U. Buehler, Michael Shilt, Fredrick Remund, Martin Seifert, John Kummer. Seventh row, Edward Durtschi Jr., Fred Buehler, Fredrick Durtschi Jr., Fredrick Durtschi Sr., John Boss, Jacob Probst, Edward Durtschi Sr., Ulrich Abegglen, Alfred Durtschi and Henry Zenger Sr.

by John Huber. The stones had been prepared by Johannes Sonderegger. They were all high priests. At this time there were no other ward organizations of the priesthood. The seventies were organized as a quorum shortly after the Elders were organized in a stake capacity.

During 1885-1886 the first ward organ was purchased at $125. The meeting house had been completed to such an extent that the first meeting was held May 23, 1886; however, it was not dedicated until 1895. There was still an indebtedness of $40, and $50 more was needed for a skylight over the door. The building measured 60 ft. by 30 ft. and 16 ft. to the ceiling. It was built of native rock with a belfry at the south end which contained a big church bell, its beautiful, clear tones ringing out to call the people to worship and tolling on sad occasions for funerals.

add 560 x on